

onthehorizon

..... Horizons International Newsletter – August 2021

INVESTING IN GOD'S PEOPLE



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Horizons
INTERNATIONAL
proclaim. disciple. equip.



DAVE WOLF

A PASTOR'S TESTIMONY

At Grace Point Church in Newtown, Pennsylvania, where I serve as Pastor, we believe **the local church is primarily responsible for giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world.** Over the last few years, our church developed a passion for missions in the Middle East, which led us to develop a ministry partnership with Horizons International.

This partnership has broadened our exposure to Christ-followers of other cultures. We give tangible support to Amchit Baptist Church near Byblos, as well as to Horizons' School of Hope for Syrian refugee children. We plan to send teams to Lebanon after the pandemic subsides, but in the meantime God has shown us a number of ways to cultivate our partnership even from a distance.

Horizons helped us connect with Amchit Church, and we are blessed to be building a mutually supportive relationship with Pastor Joseph Moussa and other leaders there. **We have been praying for one another regularly,** including several live prayer sessions via Zoom. The children in our church have also exchanged video messages with the children of Amchit Church.

After the recent devastating explosion in Beirut, God led our church to support the Lebanon Crisis Fund. We were blessed to supply practical resources to people in desperate need. To know that Horizons and Amchit Church are **meeting practical needs in the name of Jesus** is an exciting opportunity, as we get to play a part in evangelism among Muslims and refugees desperate for real hope.

We have gained great encouragement seeing our faithful brothers and sisters in Lebanon standing firm through incredibly difficult circumstances. It is a joy to stand in unity with them, and we are excited to continue exploring ways to deepen our connection to Lebanon as we live out God's call to spread the gospel.

God bless you,
Pastor Dave Wolf

YOUR CHURCH CAN PARTNER WITH US TOO:

<https://www.horizonsinternational.org/partner>

GLOBAL UPDATES

ENGAGING MUSLIMS ACROSS THE WORLD

HONG KONG

Horizons International Asia (HIA) has launched a new training program, **HKSTORM 2021**, equipping young people for missions. The program, mainly promoted through social media, focuses on high school students and offers morning training sessions followed by local short-term mission trips.

The students will gain invaluable first-hand experience in engaging and praying for Muslims as they visit mosques, madrasas (Islamic schools), and Muslim communities. Students will be able to put their newfound skills and experience to use by joining in HIA's regular street evangelism and university outreaches.



Students will take part in outreach

SOUTH AFRICA

In July 2021, Nicole Ravelo-Hoërsen taught a course "Understanding Islam" at the Capetown's Bible Institute of South Africa. Joining a team of experienced missionaries, Nicole's regular role was expanded at the annual event as she replaced a colleague who had fallen ill with COVID. **Nicole and husband Allain also contributed to a new study book for the course,** joining other lecturers who are all missionaries involved in local outreach to Muslims.

ZAHLÉ, LEBANON

Zahlé's mercy ministry team is regularly engaging **145 families** with the gospel and providing food, medicine, and winter fuel for those who have been severely impacted by Lebanon's ongoing crisis, and **10 individuals have now begun attending local churches.** Meanwhile, the team has also been producing evangelistic videos for social media, including a series of short one-minute videos featuring each of the Ten Commandments.

Since March 2020 this project, led by Pastor Imad Aubrey, has been **active in evangelism and providing humanitarian aid**, while training leaders in ministry, leading Bible studies, and teaching in local churches. Pastor Imad also counsels many people, focusing on reconciling broken relationships.



Bible study and prayer in Zahlé



Distributing food to in-need families

CHURCHES UNITE IN CRISIS RESPONSE

85 LOCAL LEBANESE CHURCHES SUPPORT THEIR COMMUNITIES

With your help, 85 churches across Lebanon have joined the Lebanon Crisis Fund (LCF), and have distributed free food and practical aid to over 200,000 impoverished Syrian refugees and Lebanese nationals. This has opened up thousands of opportunities to show God's love in tangible ways, share the gospel, and bring people into discipleship relationships and local congregations.

Abundant Life Church

Bourj Hammoud, Beirut

Denomination: Pentecostal

Congregation Size: 200

LCF Projects: Christmas Chicken Project, food distribution, repair of the church facility damaged by the blast

"Horizons is a remarkable partner and a big blessing to our church. I appreciate all their help. They enabled us to reach and serve 400 additional families in our Christmas outreach by giving a matching gift of 2 rotisserie chicken meals for each 1 that our congregation offered. This encouraged our members to give and serve, and increased our impact, for God's glory."

— Pastor Chady El Aouad



Life Center

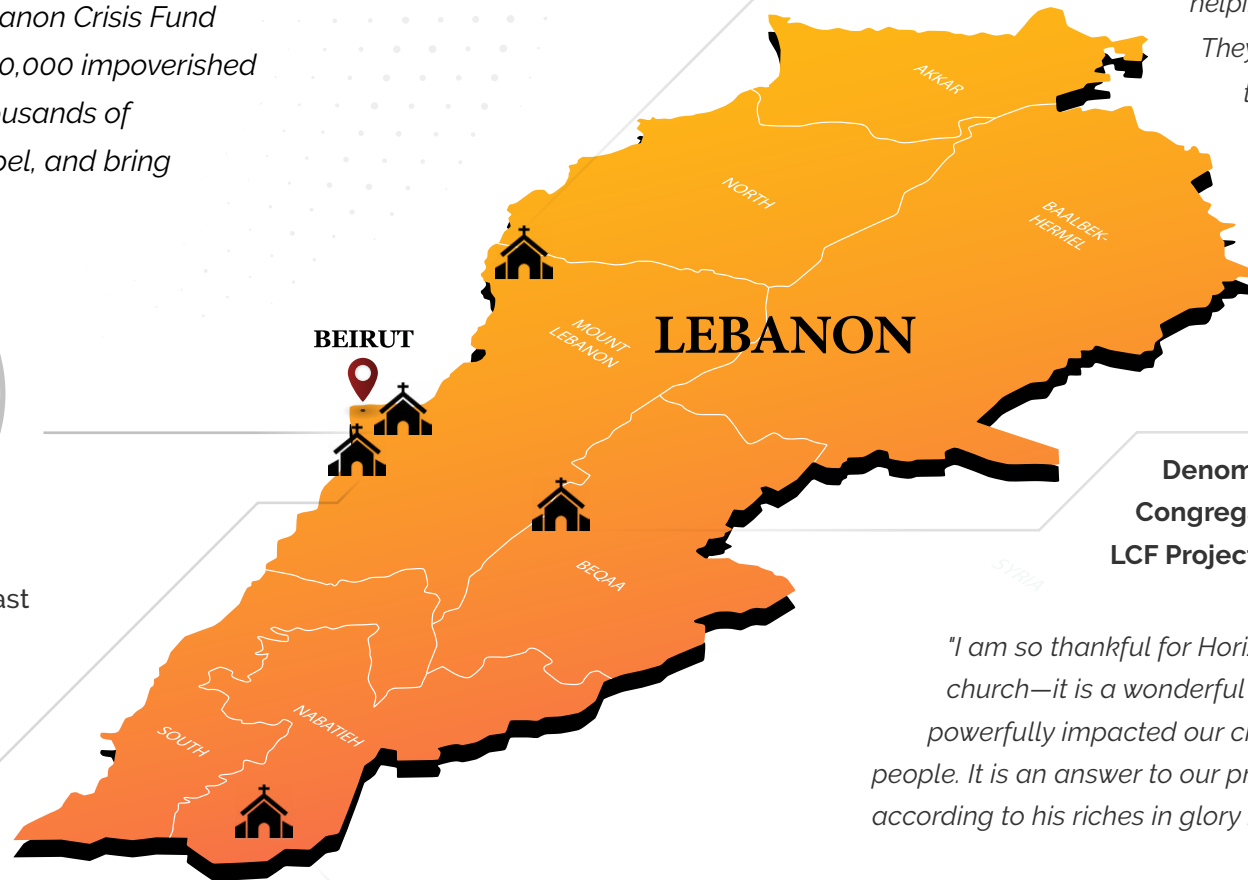
Bourj Hammoud, Beirut

Denomination: Church of God

Congregation Size: 150

LCF Projects: Facility repair, food distribution

"I thank God for how Horizons has helped Life Center church and its community in Beirut, providing us with food portions to give to those in need, helping with medical operations, and helping in individual emergencies for our leaders and pastors at Life Center! We thank God for their ministry and their work for the Kingdom of God." — Pastor Said Deeb



Amchit Baptist Church

Amchit

Denomination: Baptist

Congregation Size: 70

LCF Projects: Food distribution, media partnership, US sister church program

"Our little church has a big vision for media, and we are grateful that Horizons is helping us achieve it through providing training and resources that we need. They never abandoned us, even during Lebanon's economic collapse and the tragic coronavirus pandemic, and they were among the first to rush in and help in many ways. Horizons was a 'cold cup of water for the thirsty' and they truly show us the love of Christ." — Pastor Joseph Moussa



Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Kherbet Kanafar, West Beqaa

Denomination: Presbyterian

Congregation Size: 30

LCF Projects: Food distribution, revival meetings

"I am so thankful for Horizons' ministry and for those who are serving our church—it is a wonderful provision for those who are in need. Horizons has powerfully impacted our church family by demonstrating Jesus' love for people. It is an answer to our prayer that 'My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.' Amen!" — Rev. Tony Abboud



Stream of Salvation Baptist Church

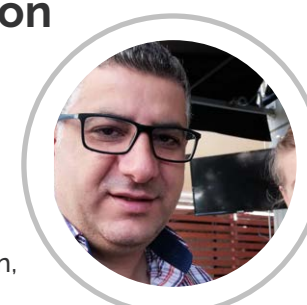
Ain Ebel

Denomination: Baptist

Congregation Size: 20

LCF Projects: Food distribution, revival meetings, internships

"The Lord has opened doors through partnering in the LCF, as several families have responded to the gospel, and even asked us to hold meetings in their homes! Food distribution has allowed us to reach more than 300 homes of families in our village who are in dire need because of the economic crisis. Horizons staff also stood by my side when my wife passed away, after giving birth to our newborn baby. Their prayers, visits, and support were a great comfort in a time of turmoil." — Pastor Wissam Fares



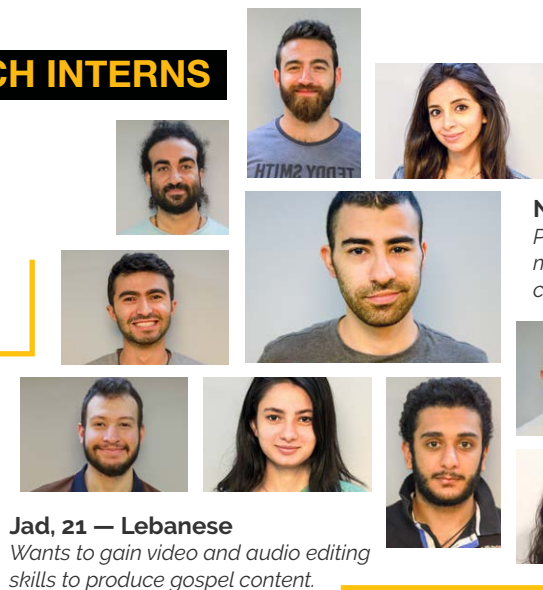
MEC MEET THE INTERNS

OVER 40 BELIEVERS BEING EQUIPPED TO SERVE

The Middle East Center (MEC) has partnered with the Lebanon Crisis Fund to onboard **41 new interns!** God has led Horizons to foster sustainable growth in Lebanon—in part by raising up many servants and leaders to reach the nations, and better serve their churches. These paid internships help candidates to develop their character and ministry skills.

- **Discipleship** - leading others to relationship with Christ through personal guidance
- **Media** - creating photo and video content for web and social media formats
- **Tech** - learning to code for websites and IT infrastructure, to help churches improve their online presence
- **International** - teaching foreign missionaries and teams how to minister to Muslims and refugees
- **Design** - producing professional-quality design work to support churches' growing needs

TECH INTERNS



Jad, 21 — Lebanese
Wants to gain video and audio editing skills to produce gospel content.

Nareg, 22 — Armenian Lebanese
Plans to guide others to their ministry calling through PR and communications.

Sandi, 31 — Syrian
Active in youth ministry and humanitarian aid, and hopes to serve her church through media.

Andrew, 22 — Syrian
A new believer who wants to serve in media and technology.

Angela, 31 — Lebanese
Intends to preach and disciple others, and is passionate about media ministry.

Rita, 34 — Lebanese
Plans to share Christ with children through video animation.

Linda, 20 — Armenian Lebanese
Wants to serve God through worship ministry and graphic design.

DESIGN INTERNS

MEDIA INTERNS



Hrag, 30 — Lebanese
Looking to develop video-editing skills to share the message of Christ.

Pierre Houssey
Executive Director

"When God called me to Lebanon, he gave me a passion to support local believers. It's been incredible to witness the amazing things God does through them when they get a little support, training, and encouragement. This new wave of interns makes my heart soar with excitement and hope for the future of the Church in Lebanon!"

Sevan, 51 — Armenian Syrian
Wants to share the gospel with women and help them find their calling.

Manal, 40 — Kurdish Syrian
Passionate about seeing lives transformed, and wants to serve in evangelism and discipleship.



DISCIPLESHIP INTERNS

Jouheina, 30 — Kurdish Syrian
Serves on several ministry teams and plans to disciple many women and young girls.

J-A, 25 — Chinese
Helps with Bible studies and house visits, and plans to serve in missionary care.

I-Y, 32 — Chinese
Hopes to become a long-term missionary after completing this internship.

Mary, 66 — American
Hopes to serve in Lebanon long-term and improve her Arabic after this internship.

INTERNATIONAL INTERNS

Is God calling you to serve abroad? Take the next step with Horizons' internships—in Lebanon and beyond. Visit us and learn more today:
horizonsinternational.org/internships



JOIN THE LCF CONVERSATION!

LEBANON CRISIS FUND: THE WAY FORWARD

This August, join us for an online Zoom call marking the one-year anniversary of the devastating explosion in Beirut. Since August 4, 2020, the Lebanon Crisis Fund has provided gospel-centered aid to those impacted by the blast—distributing food and supplies, and helping communities rebuild from the destruction, spiritually and physically. At Horizons' next digital roundtable, you can talk to Horizons leaders about the project's present and future:

- Strategy for transforming short-term relief into sustainable long-term solutions
- Updates on new farmland under contract in the Beqaa Valley community, to form a missional community
- How the Middle East Center for World Missions (MEC) is equipping local churches to make their greatest impact for the Great Commission

Join this discussion, take part in a Q&A, and hear directly from staff members on how Horizons and its ministry partners are making Kingdom impact!

350+ Proclamations of Faith

761 People in Discipleship

2,404 Bibles Distributed

85 Local Church Partners

Lebanon Crisis: The Way Forward

Online Zoom Call

Early August



Learn more and register today:

horizonsinternational.org/roundtables

YES! I WANT TO REACH THE WORLD FOR CHRIST!

Enclosed is my one-time monthly gift of \$ _____ to support missionary/project: _____

Plus a one-time

monthly gift to the Lebanon Crisis Fund:



CLICK HERE TO GIVE